

REMARKS

Claims 7, 9-12 and 14-15 have been amended. Claims 8 and 13 have been canceled.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-6 and 16-22 are allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner.

The Examiner indicated that claims 8-11 and 13-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants has amended the rejected base claims associated with each of these groups of claims to include substantially all the limitations of the corresponding objected to claims and any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 7, 9-12, and 14-15 are in condition for allowance.

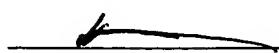
The Examiner rejected claims 7 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Goodwin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,586,294). In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been obviated.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the rejections and objections have been overcome. Applicants reserve all rights with respect to the application of the doctrine of equivalents. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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